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Art Unit 1711

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RE: Application No. 09/486,745 - AD 6521 CPA

CC:

Number of pages including cover sheet: 6

Message

Preliminary Amendment Attached

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

In the Application of: FAX NO. 703-872-9035
 MASAHIRO NOZAKI CASE NO.: AD-6521 CPA
 APPLICATION NO. 09/486,745 GROUP ART. UNIT: 1711
 (OF PARENT) (OF PARENT)
 FILED: APRIL 17, 2002 EXAMINER: A. WOODWARD
 (OF PARENT)

FOR: POLYMERIC COMPOSITION FOR
 WELDING

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend the claims in the above captioned application as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A polyamide composition for welding consisting essentially of
 (A) an aromatic polyamide having a molar fraction of aromatic monomers among monomer components of said polyamide of at least 0.2, and having a carboxylic acid component consisting of terephthalic acid, isophthalic acid or a mixture of terephthalic acid and isophthalic acid and optionally aliphatic acid, and a diamine component of aliphatic diamine;
 (B) a fully aliphatic polyamide, and
 (C) inorganic filler,
 wherein the weight ratio of (A) and (B) is from 99:1 to 5:95 and the inorganic filler is present in an amount of from 5 to 60 percent by weight based on the weight of the composition.

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REMARKS

Claims 1, 3 and 4 are pending in this application. The transition language of Claim 1 has been amended from "comprising" to "consisting essentially of" in an effort to better highlight the features of the instant invention. Specifically, Applicant posits that the instant claims as amended do not contain any other constituents that adversely or materially affect the basic and novel characteristics of the claimed invention. As noted in the objects portion of the specification (page 2, lines 3-10) those characteristics are directed to excellent weldability, heat resistance, and hydrolysis resistance. It is further asserted that in so limiting the claims to the recited materials (and only others meeting the above criteria) the case is better positioned for allowance.

Applicants continue to express concern that the references earlier applied -- EP 0 488 335 and EP 0 580 387 -- do not provide elaboration regarding use of their respective compositions for such specialty purposes as in Applicants' case. This is perhaps not surprising, given that the development of polyamide compositions suitable for welding applications and that retain desirable properties is a difficult endeavor. It is in this field that Applicants have perfected certain polyamide compositions, and their utility for applications requiring such stringent molding conditions is not previously recognized.

Allowance of the claims as amended are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: *4/18/02*